

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

August 28, 2014

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor James Calnon, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Dale Dowdle (W3), Paul O'Connell (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

Absent: **Councilor Mike Kelly (W2)**

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on August 14, 2014 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the weeks ending August 20, 2014 in the amount of \$ 282,862.68 and August 27, 2014 in the amount of \$ 290,701.37 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of August 14 - 27, 2014
- Report of Public Hearing held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on August 18, 2014

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. **AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the weeks ending August 22, 2014 in the amount of \$ 1,273,846.23 and August 29, 2014 in the amount of \$ 1,414,952.48 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. **PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:**

Diana Wardell 45 Edgewater Estates and **Judy Bechard** 35 Edgewater Estates representing PASS thanked the City and they did an excellent job with the bike lanes. Presented an award to the Council and Kevin Farrington and submitted an information brochure about North Margaret Street Road Diet that was distributed.

Carol Klepper 17 Couch Street spoke about 15 Couch Street.

7. **OTHER ITEMS:**

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves naming the alley, which runs from Oak Street to Marion Street at the south side of the First Baptist Church – 38 Oak Street. This alley will be named **Dawn Alley**; and appropriate signage shall be fabricated and installed on Oak Street and Marion Street by the Department of Public Works.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper
Discussion:

Councilor Dowdle asked if any efforts to keep alley clear.

Councilor Kretser indicated DPW will put signage up.

Councilor Dowdle mentioned something is needed to distinguish alley way and not parking

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Jen Boyer to hold the Race for Stace 5k on US Oval on Saturday May 2, 2015 to benefit the Stacy Lynn Frechette Scholarship Fund.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Stephanie Desautels to hold the Plattsburgh Half Marathon on Sunday April 26, 2015.

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to transfer amounts totaling \$9,500.00 from the 2014 Building Inspector and Zoning budgets to the System Administration budget for a portion of the \$38,000 cost for a Building Inspector module addition to the City's Munis Enterprise System.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to transfer \$10,000.00 from the 2014 Capital Transfer budget item to the Street Maintenance Contract Service budget item for necessary repairs to the curbing on the South Catherine Street bridge as required by the NYS DOT safety flag #2219650.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

F. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the North Country Mustang Club to hold their 15th Annual All Ford Show at the waterfront parking lot on Sunday, July 26, 2015.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

G. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Mayor be authorized to sign change order #14, Contract # 2014-07 to the South Catherine Street Reconstruction Contract in the amount of \$197,427.25 to extend the limits of work approximately 430-linear feet to the south to include Tyrell Avenue. Sufficient funds are available in the project budget to cover the additional cost. Sufficient funding available in Capital Project H5110.44 "2014 Street Resurfacing."

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

H. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Plattsburgh Rotary Club to hold its Bed Race either on Sunday, September 14, 2014 or on Sunday, September 21, 2014 from 1pm – 3pm closing City Hall Place, Trinity Place and lower Court Street. This is a rain date and only necessary if the event had to be cancelled during the Battle of Plattsburgh weekend due to inclement weather.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

I. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves "Team JC's Survivors" to hold a "Smash the Stigma" event on September 6, 2014 in the Durkee Street parking lot. Proceeds will be donated to the "Out of the Darkness Walk" on October 5th in Lake Placid.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

J. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves “Team JC’s Survivors” to hold the “First Annual Saranac River Bowl” event on October 4, 2014.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O’Connell

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

K. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to increase the 2014 General Fund Budget by \$509.62 for a reserve transfer from the Clyde Lewis Special Reserve to pay for maintenance costs for the museum aircraft entrusted to the City located at the entrance to the Old Base property with a corresponding increase to appropriations in Parks & Beautification for contract services for the unbudgeted project expenditures needed to maintain the aircraft.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

L. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the following:

1. Assign the new Civil Service title Assistant Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator to Range 2 of the Manager’s Pay Schedule.
2. Authorize the Mayor to appoint an Assistant Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator up to Step 7 in Range 2 of the Manager’s pay scale.
3. Authorize the Mayor to appoint an Assistant Chief Water Pollution Control Plant Operator up to Step 5 in Range 5 of the Manager’s Pay Scale.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion:

Councilor Kasper remarked that important throughout the city to think about succession.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

M. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to appoint Glens Falls National Bank as the City’s official depository for all funds of

the City of Plattsburgh, for the period of 5 years commencing on October 1st, 2014, and ending on September 30th, 2019.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

N. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Mayor is authorized to sign a contract with Saratoga Associates for the Visioning Project in the amount of \$107,864.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

O. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to increase the 2014 General Fund Budget by \$6,120.00 for the contributions received for the Lake Champlain Memorial and to increase the total appropriations by the same amount to cover unbudgeted costs of \$16,000.00 needed to erect the memorial through use of the contribution revenue and \$9,880.00 of General Fund Contingency, transferred into Parks & Beautification River Walk budgeted expenditures.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

P. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a request from the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration committee for the following street closures during the event weekend September 12 – 14, 2014:

City Hall Place from Cornelia to Bridge, Court and Trinity Square from Margaret to City Hall Place
Friday, September 12, 2014 from 5-11pm; Saturday, September 13, 2014 from 9am to 11pm;
Sunday, September 13, 2014 from 9 am - 5pm.

Saturday, September 13, 2014 for parade: Cumberland Avenue from Margaret to Saily close at 10 am to through traffic but allow local residents and business related vehicles permission to enter.
Close to all traffic except emergency cases from 12:45 until parade clears the area. Also eastern end

of Durand and Lorraine from Ianelli. This would permit traffic to use both streets freely up to Ianelli where it could loop back out to Saily if needed. Bridge street from Durkee to Macdonough during the parade.

Lorraine and Durand from Saily to Cumberland, Ianelli, Nichols, Cedar and Kellogg all be coned for no parking on one side of the street from midnight September 12, 2014 until the parade clears the area on September 13. This will help facilitate movement of floats, busses and emergency vehicles while the parade is forming.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

Q. Motion to waive rule 4 for initial consideration "Request from City Engineer Kevin Farrington for permission to advertise for bids for Contract # 2014-28 "Fire Station 1 and 2 Roof Replacement."

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves City Engineer Kevin Farrington permission to advertise for bids for Contract # 2014-28 "Fire Station 1 and 2 Roof Replacement."

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Bill Treacy Manager MLD to attend the "IEEP's Annual Meeting" in East Syracuse, NY from September 25 – 26, 2014 at an estimated cost of \$324.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves one Police Officer to attend the “Annual Meth Lab Recertification Training” in Albany, NY from September 7-9, 2014. The cost is covered by the DEA.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Jon Ruff, Environmental Manager to attend the “NY Water Environment Association Annual Meeting” in New York City, NY from February 2-4, 2015 at an estimated cost of \$1,940.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Bryan Brayton, IT Director to attend the “NYS Local Government IT Directors Association Meeting Fall 2014” in Watkins Glen, NY from October 8-10, 2014 at an estimated cost of \$475.68.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from City Engineer Kevin Farrington for permission to advertise for bids for Contract # 2014-28 “Fire Station 1 and 2 Roof Replacement.” (**Move to agenda under “Other Items” Letter Q**)

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Calnon introduced Local Law P-3 of 2014 amending and restating in its entirety Chapter 270,

Section 26 of the City Code of the City of Plattsburgh to correct the deficiencies identified by the court.

Mayor Calnon set the Public Hearing on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 5pm in the Common Council Chambers, 41 City Hall Place, Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

Councilor Kasper asked questions related to this.

[Further discussion on this topic]

Mayor Calnon added the following resolution:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Change Order #, PMLD 2014-3-1 “115kV Breaker Replacement St Lawrence “ in the amount of \$29,250.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

[Continued with New Business]:

Councilor Kretser asked if there is a time line for the physical reorganization of the Community Development Office.

Mayor Calnon discussed some ideas.

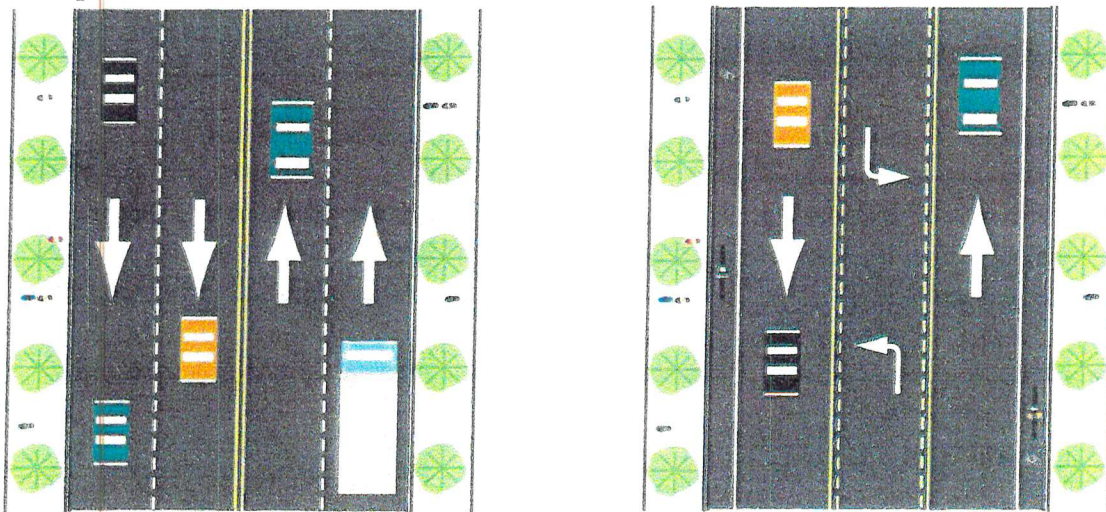
11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor O’Connell; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:07pm

NORTH MARGARET STREET ROAD DIET

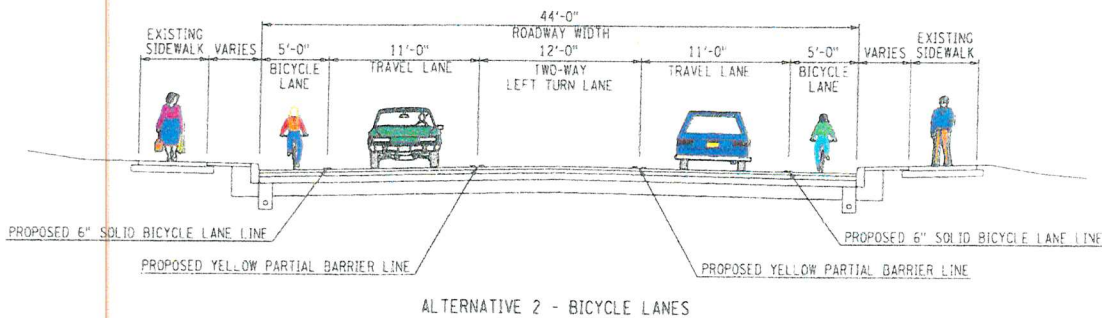
Road Diet FAQ

1. What is a Road Diet? Basically a road diet is switching a road from four lanes to two, with a center turn lane. Engineers and planners alike have found that in high turn environments (like North Margaret Street) three-lane roads can carry as many motor vehicles as a four-lane road- with greater safety and efficiency for all modes of transportation.



BEFORE
Road Diet Conversion

AFTER
Road Diet Conversion



2. How can a road with less lanes carry the same amount of traffic? That is the one on everyone's mind :-), and luckily there is an answer! When a car stops in a moving traffic lane to turn left (as is very common on North Margaret Street) it causes a whole slew of problems- congestion, blind spots, unsafe lane changes, and

discrepancies in vehicle speeds are some of the most common. In a three-lane system there is always one lane for driving, and one lane for turning, no mixing up the two, making driving safer and more reliable, with fewer crashes and frustrations. For these reasons, a 3-lane road can handle the same amount of traffic as a 4-lane road (and in some cases it can handle more traffic).

Another part of the congestion equation is the intersection. It's the intersection that often determines the levels of congestion on a road. An important point to be made is that the southbound approach to the Boynton intersection will continue to have the same amount of lanes as before the road diet.

3. How does a road diet make driving safer? As mentioned above, road diets provide a center turn lane so that left turns are simpler. A driver crosses only one lane of traffic at a time (resulting in fewer blind spots). With an undivided 4-lane road, a driver must find a gap in two or three lanes of traffic at once to make a left turn. An argument against the safety factor is that it's because traffic is diverted to other streets that results in fewer crashes. This has been found to be a false assumption. In reality, road diets have been found to maintain (and enhance) traffic flow while reducing crashes up to 90%.

4. How does a road diet make walking safer? First, you only have to cross three lanes of traffic, not four. Second there are fewer blind spots as you only have one lane in each direction, thus there is less sight blockage by cars. Third top vehicle speeds in a three lane system are lower (this does not mean that it will take longer to get through downtown on North Margaret Street, it means that there will be less speeding up and slowing down, and a more consistent pace). Also, with the addition of bike lanes to the roads there will be less bike traffic on the sidewalks (which is already illegal, but still common, and can make sidewalks less safe for pedestrians).

5. How does a road diet make biking safer? Bike lanes of course! And all of the reasons listed above for pedestrian safety. On North Margaret Street today a cyclist is at risk of being 'mirrored' by a motor vehicle passing by within a foot or two.

6. How much is this project going to cost the city? The project is primarily a re-striping, not a redevelopment, so the project will be quick with minimal closures, and relatively inexpensive. The pavement in the southern portion of North Margaret Street was in poor condition and is now resurfaced to provide a smoother, safer surface and more clear lane markings. New York State Consolidated Local Street and

Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funds will be used to cover that cost. Approximately \$10,000 went into engineering the project, although about half of that cost was shared by Georgia Pacific.

7. What happens if it doesn't work out? There is always a possibility that this project will not work out- and if this is the case the City has said that they will repaint the road back to the way it used to be.

Note: North Margaret Street is serving approximately 7,500 to 10,225 vehicles per day which is well below the national recommendations for road diets. Road diets are not a one-size fits-all solution, but if the average daily traffic (ADT) and it is less than 16,000 vehicles, then it is likely that a road diet will work.

Area photos of the re-striping and the signs that will be added.

